

Worship

Grow

Serve

Monthly Tidings

Trinity United Methodist Church

TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA

Volume 46, Number 3, March, 2019

Because of God's love for us through Jesus Christ, we exist to worship, grow, and serve.

Lenten Study Groups begin in March

Nick Quinton

Director of Discipleship and Adult Ministries

It's hard to believe it is already time for our annual church-wide Lenten Study. We will open the season with our Ash Wednesday service on March 6, and our small groups can begin the very next day. This year we are studying "**Made for a Miracle**" by Mike Slaughter. What has always impressed me about Rev. Slaughter's ministry is his practical approach to weighty theological issues. This study is no exception. He calls us to look beyond our day to day routines to find the wondrous grace God is pouring into our lives. In true Mike Slaughter form, he reminds us that we have a part to play too. To quote him, "we are partners in the miracle-making business." We'll look at stories from the Old and New Testament to gain a sense of God's intervention and human responsibility that brings the reality

of miracles into our own lives. Lent is always an exciting time at Trinity and I can hardly think of a better way to get ready for Easter. As we prepare to celebrate Christ's resurrection on Easter together, my prayer is that we will each discover that God

is still very much in the miracle business. Additional components for this six-week study include a comprehensive Leader Guide and a DVD featuring author and pastor Mike Slaughter.

Please use the link below to sign up for a small group study. Groups will meet either at Trinity or at an off site location hosted by a member. Depending on the day your group meets, you will begin your study between March 7th and March 13th.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e45a4af2da0fe3-tumc>

MIKE SLAUGHTER

MADE FOR A
MIRACLE



From Your Ordinary
to God's Extraordinary

Preschool gets new turtle home

Stacey Duggar

Director of Trinity Preschool

Many thanks to Steve D'Attille of Gumbati Handyman Services, LLC for our new turtle tank stand in the Preschool.

Not only did Steve and his crew build a beautiful cabinet/stand, but they donated all of the labor and materials!

Please look them up on Facebook or call them at 850-519-0025 for any of your handyman needs!



Gifts to Trinity

Trinity received the following gifts from January 11-February 10:



In memory of **Alice Grow** from Nancyanne Carothers, John Carlson, Bill and Jeannette Grow.

In memory of **Ernie Sanders** from Donie Ann Henderson.

In memory of **C.M. Logan, Jr.** from Christine Logan.

In memory of **Majel Barrett** from Judson and Georgia Chapman.

In honor of **Mart Hill** from T.L. Coleman Brooks.

Trinity on the Radio



Trinity's 11 o'clock service is now being broadcast on FM station - 101.7

Homeless Mats

Rose Glenn
Mats for Friends Leader

The group which makes **Sleeping Mats for our Homeless Neighbors** will meet **March 14 at 10:30-noon** in the **Conference Room**.

The words of a song keeps running through my mind that I want to share with you.

*"Help me in all the work I do
To ever be sincere and true,
And know that all I'd do for you
Must needs be done for others."*

*"Yes, others, Lord yes others,
Let this my motto be;
Help me to live like others,
That I might live like thee."*

Ash Wednesday

Dr. Wayne D. Wiatt
Senior Pastor

When I was in my first appointment after Seminary, I realized that for some, Ash Wednesday was a new worship experience. So for those of you who may not have grown up with this Lenten experience or tradition, here are a few thoughts on the spiritual significance of the beginning of our Lenten journey together.

- Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Lent is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline.
- Ash Wednesday emphasizes two themes: our sinfulness before God and our human mortality. The service focuses on both themes, helping us to realize that both have been triumphed through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.



- During some Ash Wednesday services, the minister will lightly rub the sign of the cross with ashes onto the foreheads of worshipers. The use of ashes as a sign of mortality and repentance has a long history in Jewish and Christian worship. Historically, ashes signified purification and sorrow for sins.

- It is traditional to save the palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday service to burn to produce ashes for this service. The ash cross on the forehead is an outward sign of our sorrow and repentance for sins.

This year, we will have two **Ash Wednesday services on March 6:** at



Westminster Oaks, we will have a service in the Chapel at 11:30 a.m.; and at **Trinity**, our Ash Wednesday service will be held at 6:30 p.m., following our usual Wednesday night dinner. The theme of the service is **Penitence and Reconciliation**. Here is an excerpt from the liturgy:

"Each day we deal with death, yet pretend that we are good. Let us take these forty days to look hard at our so-called goodness and see what it covers up. Then we will join together in taking up the cross of living in the world as it is, for there is only one earth, and as far as we know, only one human race. The closing prayer in the Act of Penitence and Reconciliation is:

Merciful God, the ashes are our pledge to take up the cross of life. We came from earth and we will go back to it. In the meantime, beginning with these forty days, we will try to live here and make it a better home for everybody. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Music News for March

Mark Repasky
Music Director

Chancel Choir Prepares for Orchestra Sunday

Even before Christmas, the Chancel Choir started practicing music for **Orchestra Sunday**, set for **April 7** at the **11 o'clock** service. This is the choir's once-a-year opportunity to sing with a professional orchestra. We are grateful to the church for providing the finances to make this possible, and thrilled to share the results

with our congregation. Usually, the best recording of the Chancel Choir each year is made at their dress rehearsal with the orchestra, which is Wednesday, April 3.

The five selections are all based on the **Book of Psalms**. We will present French composer Cesar Franck's "Psalm 150," and "Psalm 100" by the contemporary classical composer Paul Thompson. Some of you might have seen the BBC TV comedy series "the Vicar of Dibley." The theme song

for that show was composed by Howard Goodall, and is based on the beloved Psalm 23. The choir and orchestra will also present the beautiful "How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place" from the Brahms Requiem. This is based on Psalm 84, verses 1, 2 & 4. Mendelssohn's "He Watching Over Israel" is based on Psalm 121, verse 4. All of these selections are uplifting, both in text and in music. Come, and invite your music loving friends!



The two Steel Pans groups from Trinity performed at Salem UMC in Havana in February.



Children with the singing group, "Watoto," visited with the NETkids and shared songs before going to the sanctuary to perform (photo below left). They were amazing - ask any NETkid! The next morning, after they came back from their sponsors' homes, they were just like any other group of kids - going to school and learning more about their world (above right). Trinity kids, like the NETkids in the photo bottom right, were wide-eyed and awed by the talent and energy the Watoto kids brought. And there was one Trinity kid (above left) who just could not stop dancing to the music!



UMW in Ministry March 5th - Animal Therapy Awareness

Nancy Bedford
Communications Officer

UMW member, Holly Harrison, the daughter-in-law of UMW president Esther Harrison, will present a program on her therapy animal! Everyone is invited to attend even if you aren't a member of UMW.

The luncheon meeting will be held in Moor Hall from 11:45-1:00. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about therapy animals! Enjoy a delicious lunch and fellowship! Reservations please by Friday, March 1. Call Nancy Kerce 877-6546. Hope to see you there!

UMW Circle Meetings

Alpha Circle: Monday, March 11, at 10 a.m. Oak Room at Westminster Oaks, Cynthia Smith chair.

Dorcas Foster Circle: Tuesday, March 5, at 1 p.m. in the church library, Nancy Kerce, chair.

Mary Martha Circle: Monday, March 11, at 6 p.m. 2104 W. Randolph Cir., Julie Pararo, hostess/chair.

Sojourners Circle: Wednesday, March 6, at noon, Cafe at St. Johns, Marchi Chumbler, chair.

Susanna Wesley Circle: Tuesday March 19, at 10 a.m. Specialty House, Meandering Lane, Westminster Oaks, Liz Smith, chair.

The Voice Circle: Thursday March 21, at 7 p.m., 1515 Paul Russell Rd. #61, Lynette Halter, hostess, Patti Oakley, chair.

Thank You for Your Response to Hurricane Michael

Wayne Curry
Trinity UMC Relief Coordinator Hurricane Michael

As I sit down to write this article for the Tidings it is the four month anniversary of Hurricane Michael's arrival on the doorstep of the panhandle, wreaking havoc and destruction the likes of which this area has never seen before. The people of Trinity (children, youth and adults) immediately went into action, first by checking on those in our own congregation who were affected and going to work clearing tons of debris from their yards.

People kept asking: "How can I help?" More than 50 folks immediately signed up to help in a variety of ways...and that list has grown to more than 100!

We began sending work teams supplied with chain saws, wheelbarrows, rakes, muscles and smiles to the **Centenary Camp in Quincy** preparing it to be a 'base camp' for teams to stay. (Blue Whitaker even fixed a number of toilets that needed repair.).

We helped clear debris from the **Blounstown United Methodist Church** and from a number of their church members homes.

We heard of a need in Blountstown for volunteers to sort through 100,000 pounds of clothing that had been donated and so we sent teams to a warehouse with no power or water supply. We donated necessary supplies to help get everything organized. Hundred of warm jackets, sweaters, gloves and blankets were given out during the cold spells in January.

We have supplied nearly \$2,500 worth of gift cards to pastors, teachers, and individuals.

Most recently we saw the needs of a **Middle School in Panama City** that had lost all their books and teacher supplies. We put out a plea and, as usual, the good folks of Trinity went to work. As of this writing we have sent nearly \$4,000 of books and supplies to Merritt Brown Middle School.

We have had over 30 trained by the Conference to be **Early Responders** and

another 20 trained to be **"Connect Neighbors,"** calling on hundreds of homes to see how they were doing, what they still needed and mainly just listening to their stories.

We have been given a fully equipped trailer by the **First UMC of Ocala** to use for our work in the weeks and months ahead.

Much has been done in these four months but if you've driven west on I-10 you can see the work has only just begun! We said from the very beginning...we're in this for the long haul. We will continue to listen...we will continue to respond. If you would like more information on how you can be involved please email me (curry.wayne@gmail.com).

Thank you for all you have done...whether you have done physical labor, donated supplies or money, or lifted up a prayer or two...you have been the hands, feet and heart of Christ. Always remember how much... You are loved, Wayne and Beth Curry



Becoming Fit at Church in March

Becoming Fit at Church Team

Where Do Donations Go?

All of the instructors on the **BFC Exercise Team** volunteer their time. One hundred percent of the donations made to the morning exercise classes are set aside to be used for community service projects, locally and globally. Wednesday night class funds are used to cover the costs of the program and purchase equipment. To date, over \$50,000 has been raised.

In February, **\$1,000 of the morning funds** were used to purchase classroom supplies for the teachers at **Merritt Brown Middle School in Panama City**, which sustained extensive damage during Hurricane Michael. The teachers lost all their classroom books and supplies, and the school is now operating totally out of portables. When the shipment arrived one of the teachers said, "It's just like Christmas!" They were thrilled! And, in just one Tuesday in February, over and above regular class donations, the BFC participants also **donated \$1,000 in additional funds** to specifically help replace **classroom books**. This is just one example of how the faithful support of the BFC exercise participants reaches beyond the walls of Trinity. Many thanks to all for your continued support and generosity!



Portable school classrooms at Merritt Brown Middle School in Panama City.



Looking for a basic (and FUN) exercise class? Come try the **Staying Strong** class at **9:30 on Tues/Thurs**. Class includes standing and seating exercise, balance challenges, and flexibility. Great class for beginners!



Congratulations to Jaqui Griffith on passing her **AFAA** (Athletics and Fitness Association of America) **Group Fitness Instructor Exam**. Way to go!

2019 Class Schedule

Staying Strong – Tues/Thurs – 9:30 a.m. – (Ruth Ann or Beth, and Jaqui as a sub) – Join us for a gentle, easy and basic full body exercise class using a seated or standing format. Great class for beginners or those who do not wish to get down on the floor. Contact Beth for more info.

Variety Mix – Tues/Thurs – 11:00 a.m. – (Amy or Beth) Come enjoy a fun fast-paced hour of exercise using a variety of equipment in a variety of formats. Full-body workout with cardio, strength and flexibility segments. Intermediate to

Advanced class. Contact Beth for more info or Amy for nursery reservation (In Advance ONLY)

Fit Mix – Weds 6:30 p.m. – (Elaine) – Try a circuit style class which incorporates strength and cardio into one class. Intermediate to advanced. Contact Elaine Freni (elainefreni@gmail) for more information.

For more information about BFC, please contact: Beth Curry (BFCSeries@Yahoo.com), Amy Leach (AmyCleach@hotmail.com), or Elaine Freni (elainefreni@gmail.com)

BFC Calendar

Drop in any time! *Classes in the Parlor*

BFC Series Exercise Classes*

Tuesdays and Thursdays
• 9:30 - Staying Strong
• 11:00 - Variety Mix**

*\$3 suggested donation **Nursery by reservation only

— **Wednesdays** —
Fit MIX meets on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. as part of **Lay Academy**

For more information about BFC, please contact: Beth Curry (BFCSeries@Yahoo.com), Amy Leach (AmyCleach@hotmail.com), or Elaine Freni (elainefreni@gmail.com).

Local Missions supports Allen Outreach Center in the Griffin Heights Community

Trinity's Local Missions Team — **Trinity Cares Spotlight**



Dot Hayward
Local Missions Member

Since our last report, we have remodeled, with the help of several Trinity members, a house for one of the neighborhood volunteers. This is the second house we have remodeled in the Griffin Heights area.

In September of 2018, the Florida Chamber of Commerce published a report designating 32304 as the economically

poorest zip code in the State of Florida. Griffin Heights is in this zip code. Stunning but not surprising! Trinity United Methodist has been involved in this community for over seven and a half years through the Allen Outreach Center.

The same Chamber report points out the need for Trinity's continuing presence and donations.

Help Needed!

Sabrina Denmark
Local Missions Co-Chair

Volunteers Needed for Serving Shelter Meals at The Kearney Center

We serve meals to the Homeless on the first and fourth Monday of every month. The work schedule is broken down into quarters.

Please contact Sabrina Denmark (566-5253 or sab.den@comcast.net) for details and/or to volunteer.



Local Missions Brochure

Have you seen the exciting brochure created by the **Local Missions Committee?**

It will keep you informed of:

What We Do and Where the Opportunities are!

The brochure is informative and is kept up to date.

Pick up your copy in the Narthex today!

Together in Lent 2019

For the last several years during Lent, the downtown churches — First Baptist Church, St. John's Episcopal Church, First Presbyterian Church, and Trinity United Methodist Church — have shared their pulpits and hospitality with one another. After a short worship service, a time of fellowship was shared with church members from other churches as they enjoyed a lunch-time meal of a bowl of soup, a salad, or a sandwich.

This year, two new churches will join the group as Bethel Missionary Baptist Church and St. Paul's United Methodist Church are welcomed.

Make plans now to join in this fellowship with other churches!



Service Format

- 12:10 – 12:30 Worship (Host church plans liturgy) Sermon no more than 10 minutes.
- 12:30 - 12:50 - Lunch served by host church (no charge) Offering baskets at lunch site
- Recipient of Offering: Operation I.D. – Kearney Center (checks made to First Presbyterian please)

Date	Host Church	Preacher
March 7	First Baptist	Wayne Wiatt
March 14	St. Paul's UMC	R. B. Holmes
March 21	Trinity UMC	Gary Shultz
March 28	Bethel Missionary Baptist	Kandace Brooks
April 4	First Presbyterian	Kathy Walker
April 11	St. John's Episcopal	Brant Copeland

Youth Happenings in March

Lisa Prasse Tristen Jahn
Youth Director Youth Ministry Intern

A Note from Lisa ...

Did you know that when we hope for the impossible, it involves more than praying for God's transcendent power? There are two components to every miracle: divine action and human responsibility. Each of us has been given specific talents and abilities. For a real miracle to take place, God expects us to apply these talents and abilities—acting with God to perform divine work. Join us during this Lenten season as we examine biblical examples of how we can use our God-given gifts for God's glory. Author and pastor, **Mike Slaughter**, will help us discover that we, too, were **Made for a Miracle**.

After a wonderful trip to Temple Israel at the end of January, in February we visited **St. Thomas More** on our second confirmation field trip and learned a bit about Catholicism. We're having a great time learning how different

denominations do things and why. We shared a fun time of celebration and fellowship on Super Bowl Sunday, and are preparing for our **upcoming mission trips**...the high schoolers leave for theirs this month! We'll head to **North Carolina** to learn even more about helping those in need. Please pray for our travels, good health, and servant's hearts while we're away. In addition to that trip, the **Shamrock Scurry**, the **St. Patrick's Day Fest** and other mission opportunities, we're definitely staying busy!

Please pray during March for the many upcoming events headed our way, and please come get involved! Our **Spaghetti Dinner at Springtime Tallahassee** is a big fundraiser that helps support our mission trips. You can help there by donating spaghetti noodles and sauce. There will be a collection bin in the **Welcome Center** all through the month



of March! Tickets will also be for sale - \$5 for adults and \$3 for kids buys you a delicious spaghetti lunch at Springtime Tallahassee!

We have our annual **30-Hour Famine** in April and then it's Easter!! It's a busy time, but a wonderful time and we'd love to have you! Remember to check out our Facebook page and our Instagram as well to stay in the know!

Upcoming Events

Check out the youth website for more information: <http://www.tumct.org/connect/community/youth/>

— Summer 2019 —

- Mar. 3**Shamrock Scurry
- Mar. 16**St. Patrick's Day Fest
- Mar. 18-23:**
High School Spring Break
Mission Trip-NC
- Mar. 24**Youth praise band plays
at 11 a.m. service
- Mar. 31**Spaghetti Fundraiser/
Springtime Tallahassee
- Apr. 13**30-Hour Famine
- Apr. 21**Easter
- May 4**Confirmation Banquet/
Rehearsal
- May 5**Confirmation Sunday/
Youth Choir sings at 11 a.m.
- May 19**Graduate Sunday
(recognize seniors)
- Jun. 2-8**Youth Week
- Jun. 10**VBS Training
- Jun. 11-15:**
Vacation Bible School
- Jul. 21-25:**
Mid High Mission Trip (Orlando)
- Jul. 8-13:**
CaMp! Week at Warren Willis



The Trinity confirmation class visited the Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More.

New members join in February

• **Ken and Sue Cannon** - Ken and Sue are the parents of Trinity member, Susan Nash, and the grandparents of Carter and Clayton Nash. Ken is retired from DOT and Sue is a retired accountant with TCBY.

• **Don Crosby** - Dr. Donald Crosby is professor emeritus of philosophy at Colorado State University, where he taught for 37 years. He earned his PhD in philosophy of religion through a combined program at Union Seminary in New York and Columbia University. He grew up in Pensacola and has family throughout the Florida panhandle as well as in Tallahassee. He shares teaching duties in the Betty Phifer Advanced studies Sunday School Class and, like his wife, Pam, enjoys dialoguing with fellow members of Friday Study Group. He has attended Trinity since 2012.

• **Pam Crosby** - Dr. Pam Crosby is chief editor of an academic journal and a former high school English teacher and department chair. She has attended Trinity since 2012 and is founder and editor of Trinity's Historical Society newsletter, Crossroads; a class leader of the Betty Phifer Advanced studies class; and a webmaster for content for [Trinity's website](#). One of her favorite church activities is dialoguing with fellow members of the Friday Study Group at Trinity.

• **Phyllis Dorcz** - Phyllis is thankful for her wonderful neighbors, the Glens, who let our church know of her husband's illness and passing. Not having a local church family for support was taken care of when Trinity stepped in to help. Dr. Wayne was and continues to be a great spiritual guidance. Phyllis is happy to finally become a member!

• **Nathan Kusel** - Nathan is a recent graduate of FSU with a Master of Science in Planning.

• **Brianna McLean** - Brianna is a graduate student at FSU pursuing a Master in Informational Sciences. She is passionate about history, archives, and music!

• **Mary Jo Morton** - Mary Jo is a lifelong Methodist. She is a retired teacher for Jackson County Schools.

• **Margaret O'Steen** - Margaret and her husband, Larry, moved to Tallahassee from Stuart, FL to be near their son and grandchildren. She grew up in Madison. Margaret is a graduate of FSU, a retired elementary school teacher, and the wife of a retired Methodist minister.

• **Betty Raymond** - Betty moved to Tallahassee to be near family. She and her husband, Ralph, were married for 62 years. She is a great-grandmother with three children and five grandchildren!

• **Melissa Recks** - Melissa is a working mom of two great kids, Aubrey and Garrett. She is a conservation professional and holds an M.S. in marine biology. Melissa grew up in a military family and is a lifelong Methodist.



Trinity United Methodist Church
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Rev. Dr. Wayne D. Whitt, Senior Pastor
Jonathan Brewster, Associate Pastor
Dr. Nick Quinton, Director of Adult Discipleship and Education
Rex Adams, Director of Communications



New members from February, from l-r, Melissa Recks, Garrett Recks, Audrey Recks, Mary Jo Morton, Don Crosby, Margaret O'Steen, Pam Crosby, Phyllis Dorcz, Betty Raymond, Ken Cannon, Sue Cannon, Nathan Kusel, and Brianna McLean.